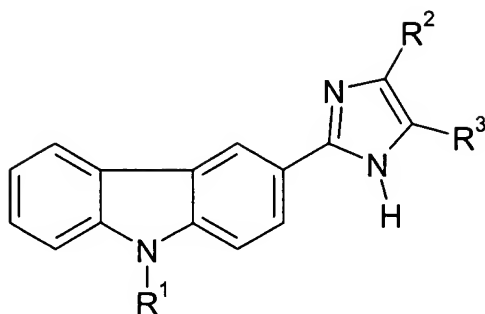


CLAIMS

1(original). A compound of Formula (IA)



(IA)

wherein

R¹ is hydrogen or (C₁-C₄)alkyl;

R² is hydrogen, (C₁-C₄)alkyl, aryl, or a 5-6 membered heteroaryl containing one to three heteroatoms selected from oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur; and

R³ is hydrogen, (C₁-C₄)alkyl or halo-substituted (C₁-C₄)alkyl;

or R² and R³ taken together form an optionally substituted aromatic six-membered heterocyclic ring, where said heterocyclic ring contains 1 to 2 nitrogen ring atoms, or an optionally substituted aromatic six-membered carbocyclic ring;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a prodrug of said compound or said salt, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound, said salt or said prodrug.

2(original). The compound of Claim 1 selected from the group consisting of

9-ethyl-3-(5-methyl-4-phenyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-9H-carbazole;

9-ethyl-3-(4-phenyl-5-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-9H-carbazole;

9-ethyl-3-(5-methyl-4-pyridin-2-yl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-9H-carbazole;

3-(4,5-dimethyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-9-ethyl-9H-carbazole;

9-ethyl-3-(1H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-yl)-9H-carbazole;

3-(1H-benzoimidazol-2-yl)-9-ethyl-9H-carbazole;

9-ethyl-3-(3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl)-9H-carbazole;

9-ethyl-3-(7H-purin-8-yl)-9H-carbazole; and 2-(9-ethyl-9H-carbazol-3-yl)-1H-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid;

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

3(original). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a prodrug of said compound or said salt, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound, said salt or said prodrug; and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent, or carrier.

4(original). The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 3 wherein said compound of Claim 1 is selected from the group consisting of 9-ethyl-3-(5-methyl-4-phenyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-9H-carbazole; 9-ethyl-3-(4-phenyl-5-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-9H-carbazole; 9-ethyl-3-(5-methyl-4-pyridin-2-yl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-9H-carbazole; 3-(4,5-dimethyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-9-ethyl-9H-carbazole; 9-ethyl-3-(1H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-yl)-9H-carbazole; 3-(1H-benzoimidazol-2-yl)-9-ethyl-9H-carbazole; 9-ethyl-3-(3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl)-9H-carbazole; 9-ethyl-3-(7H-purin-8-yl)-9H-carbazole; and 2-(9-ethyl-9H-carbazol-3-yl)-1H-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid; a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

5(original). The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 3 or 4 further comprising at least one additional pharmaceutical agent.

6(original). The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 5 wherein said at least one additional pharmaceutical agent is selected from the group consisting of an anti-obesity agent, an anorectic agent, a sorbitol dehydrogenase inhibitor, a aldose reductase inhibitor, a glycogen phosphorylase inhibitor, a cholinomimetic agent, an anti-depressant, an antianxiolytic agent, and a typical or atypical antipsychotic agent.

7(withdrawn). A method for treating a disease, condition or disorder modulated by a NPY-5 receptor antagonist in animals comprising the step of administering to an animal in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a prodrug of said compound or said salt, or a solvate or hydrate of said compound, said salt or said prodrug.

8(withdrawn). The method of Claim 7 wherein said compound of Claim 1 is selected from the group consisting of 9-ethyl-3-(5-methyl-4-phenyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-9H-carbazole; 9-ethyl-3-(4-phenyl-5-trifluoromethyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-9H-carbazole; 9-ethyl-3-(5-methyl-4-pyridin-2-yl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-9H-carbazole; 3-(4,5-dimethyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-9-ethyl-9H-carbazole; 9-ethyl-3-(1H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-2-yl)-9H-carbazole; 3-(1H-benzoimidazol-2-yl)-9-ethyl-9H-carbazole; 9-ethyl-3-(3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl)-9H-carbazole; 9-ethyl-3-(7H-purin-8-yl)-9H-carbazole; and 2-(9-ethyl-9H-carbazol-3-yl)-1H-benzoimidazole-5-carboxylic acid; a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate or hydrate of said compound or said salt.

9(withdrawn). The method of Claim 7 or 8 wherein said disease, condition or disorder is obesity, a feeding disorder, seizures, anxiety, diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, pancreatic or breast cancer, nasal congestion, female or male sexual dysfunction, congestive heart failure, an intestinal dysfunction, or a psychiatric disorder.

10 (cancelled).